GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:39
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Air Pollution Due to Construction Waste
Ramachandran Shri Krishnan Narayanasamy

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that construction waste is a major source of air pollution in the country and if so, the details thereof;
(b) the steps taken by the Government to reduce/control air pollution caused by construction waste;
(c) whether the Government has formulated rules/guidelines to regulate construction waste and management of solid wastes in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the implementation of the rules?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 39 FOR 01.12.2015 BY SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN REGARDING AIR POLLUTION DUE TO CONSTRUCTION WASTE:

(a) Yes Sir. As per the report on Source Apportionment Studies undertaken by the Central Pollution Control Board in association with other leading institutions in six metropolitan cities including Delhi during the year 2007-09, contribution of construction activities to dust particles (particulate matter) in ambient air ranged between 22-23% in these cities.

(b) to (c) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. These Rules provide procedures for management of municipal solid waste including construction and demolition waste (C&D). As per these Rules, C&D waste or debris should be collected separately and disposed off in accordance with State laws. Secondly, Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 regulates construction activities through environmental clearance process with specific conditions for prevention, abatement and control of air pollution during construction by prescribing safeguards to ensure that construction wastes are handled and disposed off in environmentally sound manner ensuring reduction and minimizing particulate matter released in ambient air. The Ministry has also notified Draft Solid Waste Management Rules, 2015 for environmentally sound management of construction and demolition waste which inter-alia include mandatory approval of waste management plan by bulk generators of construction and demolition waste.

(d) The Secretary in-charge, Department of Urban Development of the concerned State or Union Territory has the overall responsibility for enforcement of provisions of MSW (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 in the metropolitan cities. The District Magistrate or the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned district has the responsibility for enforcement of provisions of MSW (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 within their jurisdiction. The Urban Local Bodies to submit Annual Report on implementation of the Rules to the State Urban Development Department and to State Pollution Control Board (SPCB). The annual Reports submitted by all SPCBs are examined and submitted by Central Pollution Control board CPCB with recommendation to MOEFCC. MoEFCC has repeatedly emphasized with the State Governments to ensure effective implementation of the Rules.
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